

[28 November 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4
29.	Lakshadweep Islands	—	—
30.	Pondicherry	—	4
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>3003</b>	<b>3544</b>

**Underwater telephone by Keltrol**

1088. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that an underwater telephone is being produced by Keltrol, based on the indigenous design developed by the Naval Physical and Oceanographic Laboratory;
- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that these sets will be installed in all major Indian Navy ships in a phased manner;
- (c) whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been worked out by the Defence Ministry; and
- (d) if so, what are the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) The development of Under Water Telephones relates to operational information of the Navy and as such it would not be in the interest of National security to divulge it on the Floor of the House.

**Optimum utilisation of AFHQ employees in the Ministry of Defence**

1089. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary (E) to recommend implementation of the decision of the Group of Ministers on optimum utilisation of AFHQ employees in the Ministry of Defence;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the aforesaid Committee was to make its recommendations by 30.9.2001;
- (c) whether the Committee has since made its recommendations;